STEP3

# Forever with That Girl

# The Honest Life of a Game Studio Chapter 14

## ゲーム屋BL(上)

higefusa

**oyajidesu** : Translation/Lettering/Raws
**Capybara** : Quality Check

This is a fan translation by **oyajidesukara**.
oyajidesukara :Tumblr
oyajidesukara@gmail.com :Email

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Note: From 九十九神 (99 God), objects that turn 99-years old become occupied by a spirit.

A god that's like a pain-in-the-ass auntie.
....Sigh....
I be-queath my kin a good match.
Watching over my children and my children's children is my joy, my reason for being...
Since you paired off, have you not been mutually diligent trying for a baby?
PFFT
L-l-l-life partner s-s-s-sounds a bit dramatic!
You chose that dirty bearded man as your life partner, did you not?
but because I used my divine powers to save you right from the start...
Normally, I would not imagine it'd be possible between men,
PANT
PANT
PANT
HUH? WUUH?
YOU SAW THAT?
TH-TH-TH- THAT UH-- UM, ARE YOU SAYING YOU SAW?
You ask that from a god?
wriggle
wriggle
wriggle

I am readying your ideal partner.
Since it is my duty to lend a hand until your last breath,
He glossed over it...

Well... Never mind that!
What's this thing about saving me...?

A child...
Of course, we will change it so that you can have a child in the mortal world!

It's what you both like to call "customize," though?
What's wrong with that?
That's definitely fishy!
You said if I pick 1 from the 6, he will change into that personality...
Like I said-- that doesn't make sense to me!

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING WITH THAT PROUD VOICE?!!!
You can tell this story to your lovechild, yes?
Isn't that nice?

Wuh-wuh-WAIT
NO-NO-NO-NOBU-SAN IS GOING TO BE A REAL GURL?!

I look forward to your new family!
Okay then, I will wait for your choice!
I'll wait...
Listen to me.
Plea—!
Hey! Talisman-sama!
Please don't go and change Nobu-san with no consent!!
I like the usual Nobu-sa...!!
float
JUMP
UP
...Goo' morning...
Y-
Yeah...
Ya got up before I got ta wake ya.
chirp
chirp
FLINCH
FLINCH
GUOH
THWAP
GYA

Uoh!
GLOMP
がばぎゅ
ポポポ
Wh-
What's wrong?
Did ya get hit on a strange spot?
Nobu-san...!
sit up
むく...
Hurts!
Oi!
What's wrong with you this morning?
I'm... really scared...
Weird dream?
Haa?
I don't even know if I'm making the right choice
to get the real Nobu-san back.
And now I have to take a gamble...
SSSH
ア
HEY
Yer heavy

FINAL DAY (GRADU-ATION)
This day has finally come.
But, this "legendary statue",
any way you look at it, that's Talisman-sama...
excited
excited
Ah...
That figure...
Nobu-san...
swsh

Graduation, at last.
Didn't ya say you were going abroad after this?
Ahh. It was that kind of setting.
I totally forgot about it.
... Well ...
Ahem
I don't care where ya go.
Like it or not, I'm going with ya.
Going on the offensive yet again!!
SPURT
...
...Now then,
What happens next depends on yer answer.
If I pick this Nobu-san to clear the game,
for the rest of my life, this Nobu-san would look after me...

HOLD YER HORSES!!
Wah!
I'm also here, bud.
BA BAM
Good grief.
Me, too. Me, too.
We don't have our eyes on ya...
so ya take this chance ta confess?!
Getting a head start ees not nice!
Is this the prelude to the Friendship End?
Aaaaaa aaaaah jeez! Shut the hell up!
I'M doin' it
I'M doin' it
I'M doin' it
I'M doin' it
I'M doin' it
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
CLAMOR
わいの
わいの
CLAMOR
I'll hold them off so...
Anan!
Make yer choice right now!
SHOOM
Ah O--
Okay!!

...
...
MY
choice
...!
From now on, we're in this together,
Anan.
Nobu-san...
I'M SORRY!!
PI!
ORONO
TRANSFE
MEGANE N
BLOOMERS
PIANO NOBU
'M SORRY

!!
FWOOSH
Uwah?!
NOBU-SAN!
...Anan? Anan, right?!
I'm... in one piece?
I finally got to see the real Nobu-san...!

It's mostly you displayed on the TV.
I was trapped in a place like that.
with cams 1 ta 6 that check yer every move from morning till night...
In a room with CCTVs from an NPC's POV,
GYA

ぶえぇぇぇぇぇ
BWAAAH
Where have you been all this time?
How do I say this...
I was in the same game world as you.
quake
ゆっさ
quake
ゆっさ

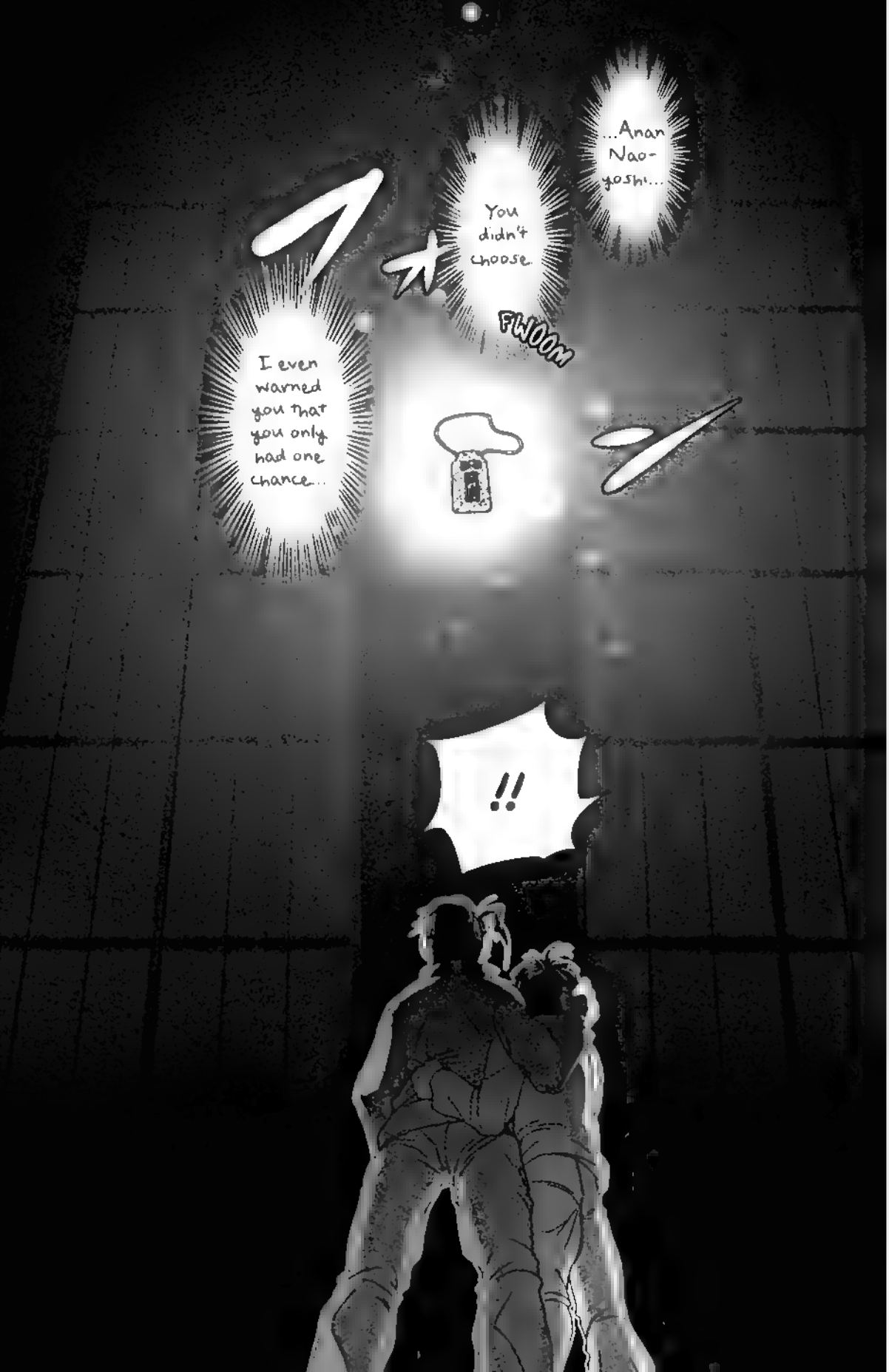
ひぃぃぃぃぃ
EEK
I wasn't able ta control the NPCs,
so I kept a close eye.

コク
nod
Are you saying... What I did in the game...
Y... Y-Y- You saw it...!
rrle
rrle
rrle
rrle

Ugh
sob
ぐすん

わしゃ
ruffle
わしゃ
ruffle
Well done.
Ya did a damned fine job doin' this all alone.
heh
Hngh

I'm sorry about that!
I didn't cheat on you!!
pat
ポン


...Anan Nao-yoshi...
You didn't choose.
FWOOM
I even warned you that you only had one chance...
!!

Your kindness is misplaced!
Me having a choice is completely not true!
SERIOUS
my choice is "I choose no one"!
Talisman-sama... For me...
Is that the cryptic voice that kept step-ping in?
Yes. That's "Talisman-sama."
Sure, the NPCs in the game fawn over me. HOWEVER,
I don't have a reason to like the Nobu-sans you created that suited your wild ideas!
I like the current Nobu-san.
And he always knows that I try my best.
He's that kind of person.
But, he really sees me for me...
and is always thinking about video games...
the real Nobu-san is strict about work

If they can't be that Nobu-san...
...then I REFUSE!
.....
Hmmm...
I see where you're coming from.
This is makin' me blush...

I will also erase all your blessings. Put everything back to how it was.

If you refuse to accept my blessing,

then that is also your choice ...

Seriously, the talisman is floating.

...Yes!

So please take us back.

And I don't want Nobu-san to turn into a woman!!

From now on, you will no longer be under my divine protection.

Very well, Anan Naoyoshi.

And as you wish...

ふふ... laugh

What's with these strings ...?
SWISH
SWOOSH
Huh?
What's this...?
SWISH
I will sever the ties that bind you
as well as my duty to you.
I am a god of good match.

Meeting someone new is still on the table.
It is better...
...to make a clean break.

SNIP

HOTEL SETOKO
Ah...!
Huh?
WUH?
turn
turn

...!!
Zip

In front of a hotel??
This is neither Nobu-san's place nor the office...
Just where...?
HOTEL

Uh.... Um, what is going on?
pull
pull
Some people haven't arrived yet, so please stay in the lobby, okay?
Tell them to go to the Apricot Room by 6 PM...

Ah... Miyoshi-san?
Anan-kuun!
Over here, over here!

WHY?!
.....Th-
The company outing?!

Oh, sorry! This is your first company outing, isn't it?
Let's have a meeting in the lobby after the dust settles.

Nobu-san...
Where is he?!
turn
キョロ
turn
キョロ
Ah, OK!
For now, please take care of comms for the late-comers!
See ya later!

I don't know why we ended up in this place after we exited the game...
I'm glad you're safe, Nobu-san!

NOBU-SAN!!
And you know what's next? So, the master of the bar, see...

I at least, want to know if he's okay...
!

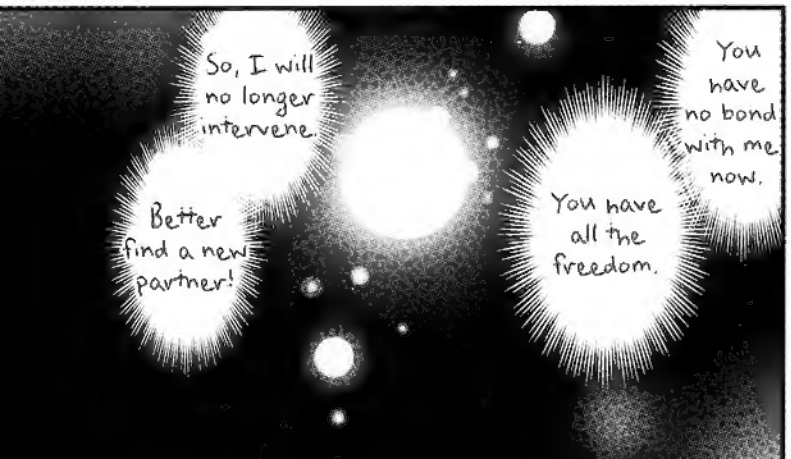
YER BEING OVER-FRIENDLY, NEW. GUY.
...What's with ya?
Calling your boss by their nickname all of a sudden is a big NO-NO.
Aah?
But Nobu-san,
I'm your...!
Yeah.
My apolo-gies...
Please... head to the Apricot Room by 6 PM...
Ooh. Dinner's at 6, right? OK!
gulp
...
...
...
...O
.....
.....
Orono... san...

Did he forget about me?
PANT
PANT
PANT
...What is this?
SLUMP
ぺたん
...Why? WHY?

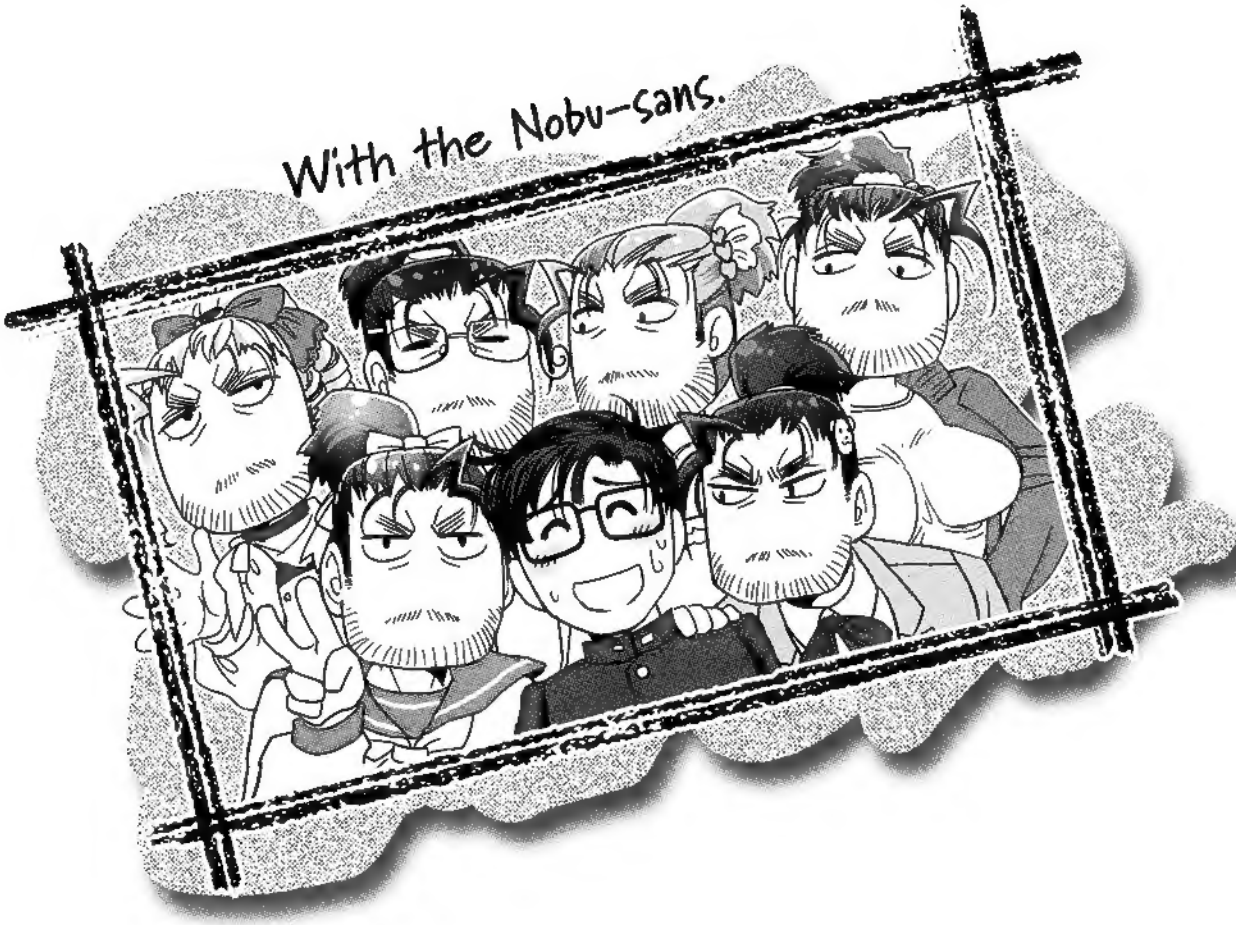
He is the one before you got to know one another.
The fuck.
You should treat them better, than that. Don't make that scary face.
You could say you and him are almost strangers.

Gone is the time you had cultivated from your very first meeting.
His bond with you was cut.
Nobu-chi, you sure are always popular.
Shut it.

He did not forget you.
That bearded man right now is merely the one who originally had no interest in you.
STARTLE
ビクン
!
Talisman-sama...?!


So, I will no longer intervene.
Better find a new partner!
You have no bond with me now.
You have all the freedom.

Out of all my choices,


With the Nobu-sans.